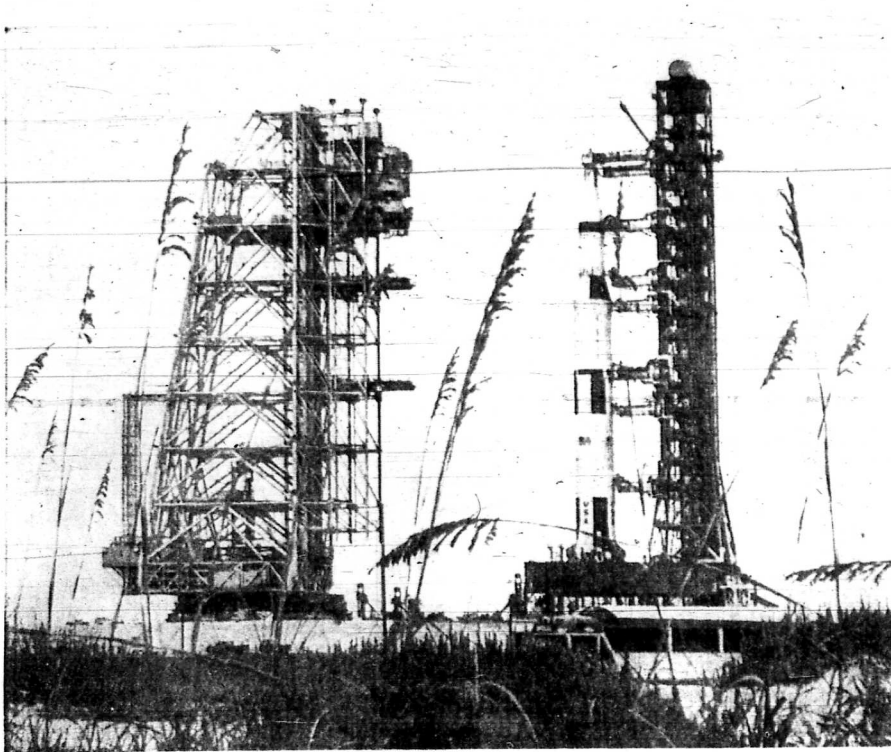


# Rocket And Crew Ready For Blastoff



**ROCKET POISED** — The mobile service structure to the Saturn V rocket holding the Apollo 11 spacecraft was moved back Tuesday as the countdown for today's launch moved ahead at the Cape Kennedy

space complex. The three Apollo 11 astronauts, Neil A. Armstrong, Michael Collins and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr., worked Tuesday on final phases of their flight. (AP Wirephoto)

CAPE KENNEDY, Fla. (AP) — Touted for the century's greatest adventure, space agency officials declared the Apollo 11 astronauts, rocket and spacecraft ready for launching Wednesday to land two Americans on the moon.

"Apollo 11 is proceeding well toward the planned launching at 9:32 a.m. EDT," mission director George H. Hage said Tuesday.

"We have had a very smooth count. There have not been any problems whatsoever that would scratch us," said launch director Rocco A. Petrone. He said weather predictions are "very favorable" for launch.

Cloudy cover may prevent spectators from seeing the 365-foot-tall Apollo 11 rocket above 15,000 feet, however.

Confident and in good spirits for their quarter-million-mile voyage to the moon, lunar explorers Neil A. Armstrong, 38, Michael Collins, 38, and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr., 39, have shown no evidence of any illness of any sort," said Dr. Charles A. Berry, chief astronaut physician.

Hage said in a news conference, however, that failure is always a possibility.

"Anytime you have a space vehicle with many million parts, there are a lot of elements that have to work right," he said. "Nevertheless, project officials have done everything man can do to minimize the chance of failure."

The astronauts spent most of Tuesday in crew quarters, reviewing the 112,000 plan and reviewing their strength for the demanding 168-hour mission to and from the moon.

Aldrin set aside some time to hone his pilot proficiency in a lunar landing craft trainer, while Armstrong talked with his wife Janet.

Mrs. Armstrong flew in the area Monday night in a private plane, she is the only one of the three astronauts' wives planning to watch the launch at Cape Kennedy. The other Apollo 11 wives will view it on television at their homes near the Manned Spacecraft Center at Houston, Tex.

"Everything conceivable has been done to assure our safety," said Armstrong. "We have high confidence. Otherwise we would not go."

Nearly a million persons were expected to witness the blast off firsthand. They include former President Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, hundreds of congressmen and officials from foreign lands, and poor people in multi-drawn waiting lines for money for the \$255-million mission could be better spent helping them.

Plane loads of VIPs began flying to the area Tuesday.

At the launch pad, crews installed batteries aboard Apollo 11's 365-foot-tall Saturn 5 rocket and completed preparing the spacecraft.

Success on Apollo 11 would mean the accomplishment of the goal set by President John F. Kennedy May 25, 1961, when he committed the nation to take on the task "before this decade is out, of landing man on the moon and returning him safely to earth."

It also would prove the moon is an accessible frontier for scientific exploration, answer numerous scientific questions including perhaps whether life exists away from earth, and gain incalculable political prestige for the United States for winning the moon race.

An unending Soviet space program, Luna 15, continued cruising toward the moon, possibly to salvage some consolation for Russia by snagging up a sample of moon rock and bringing it to earth before Apollo 11. Luna 15

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

## Sen. Smith's Name On Disc For Moon

(NEWS Washington Bureau) WASHINGTON — The name of Maine's senior senator, Margaret Chase Smith, is etched on a small silicon disc which will be placed on the moon to recognize government officials who have contributed to America's space achievements.

Sen. Smith, who is ranking Republican on the Aeronautics and Space Sciences Committee, said Tuesday she will remain here to watch the launch on television rather than accompany the large congressional contingent heading for Cape Kennedy.

Sen. Smith's name is on the space committee from its inception in the Senate and also on the Appropriations Subcommittee which has handled the funding of the entire Apollo program. Her strong support for the effort, along with that of other members of the same committee in the house and senate, will be cited on the special disc.

Asked to comment on the moon landing attempt, Sen. Smith prepared a statement reflecting general public concern over the success of the venture.

"I pray first for the safety (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

## Oil Imports Plan Again Under Fire

By JOE BROOKS

AUGUSTA — The oil imports program came under fire again from New England officials Tuesday as they continued to underscore the high prices paid by residents of the Northeast for home heating fuel.

Statements were released simultaneously by Gov. Kenneth M. Curtis and jointly by the New England Resources Council and New England Governors' Conference.

The task force has been hearing testimony for several weeks, has scheduled hearings in August and is expected to make its report to President Nixon early next fall.

The study committee was formed when Maine began to push its trade zone and oil import applications early during the Nixon Administration.

In his statement, Gov. Curtis urged that the oil import system be eliminated in not more than

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

## Nurse, 48, Is Missing On Monhegan

MONHEGAN ISLAND — A search for a 48-year-old nurse from the Bronx, N.Y., apparently missing here since Friday night centered on land Tuesday, according to the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department.

The missing woman has been identified as Paula Kirschner, who apparently was missing only hours after arriving at the small, but remote island resort 10 miles at sea of the coast of Port Clyde.

She was discovered missing (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

## Loans To Sugar Firm 'Biggest EDA Headache'

By DONALD R. LARRABEE

WASHINGTON — Assistant Commerce Secretary Robert Podesta says government loans to help Maine's new sugar industry have become the Economic Development Administration's "biggest headache."

Podesta told an inquiry: "The EDA loans, totaling \$8.7 million, have produced some jobs in Acadia County but he said the sugar enterprise itself 'has been very, very unsatisfactory.'"

Predicted it "We predicted the headache," commented subcommittee chairman John Rooney, D-N.Y., who has been critical of the loans to Maine Sugar Industries Inc. since the program began in 1966.

Podesta said "it is the biggest headache we have in the agency." He admitted he has spent a lot of time on the problem. The commerce official recently arranged with the Maine company to defer loan repayments until December 1 while government auditors examine the operation more closely.

"It is not a business which should have been situated there in the first place," said Rep. Mark Andrews, R-N.D., "as we

tried to tell Sugar producers." The subject came up at Commerce Department budget hearing behind closed doors last May. The testimony, some of it off the record, was released Tuesday.

Seems Impressed

Podesta appeared impressed that Maine Sugar had been able to get so much public financial support in the circumstances.

"This company has public stockholders and the stock has gone from \$25 to \$4 or \$5 in the last six or seven months. The company had a disastrous year."

"They have really done a great job of raising more money from the public," Podesta continued. "They registered and sold two issues of securities without underwriting funds and pumped money from the public into the project since October, but the fact is we still do not know whether they will be able to refine sugar and use their sugar beets to make something that is an economic product."

Chairman Rooney noted that Maine Sugar Industries had reported an operating loss for the first fiscal quarter ended last January 31 of \$554,410 on sales of \$2 million.

Rep. William D. Hathaway, D-Me., said attacks on the Maine sugar beet loans have been generated by members of Congress to satisfy interests in their own congressional districts.

The Maine congressman said (Continued on Page 2, Col. 5)

## 'Moon Monday' Is Suggested

(NEWS Washington Bureau) WASHINGTON — President Nixon will be asked to consider a Portland man's suggestion that next Monday be declared a "Moon Monday" holiday in celebration of the expected U.S. lunar landing.

The idea was conceived by Portland public relations executive James Reed Jr. who passed it along by telephone to Sen. Margaret Chase Smith, R-Me. Sen. Smith said it sounded worthwhile and asked Reed to put his proposal in writing and send it to her. She said she would see that it was handed delivered to the White House and urge the President to consider it.

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## Yesterday, The Continents: Now, The Planets

By C. L. SULZBERGER

(C) New York Times News Service BOSTON—More people will watch today's moonshot that were actually alive at the time of all past historic voyages of discovery. Far exceeding the throngs gathered on an overburdened Florida land-spit, hundreds of millions everywhere cluster beside television sets.

The first time human beings actually drifted off their native earth was in a ship with select, by twinned crew, chosen by Vow on behalf of God: An ark of zopher wood and pitch escape a world filled with violence. Noah's craft was 420 feet long which is surprisingly impressive

compared with the 363-foot moon rocket and dwarfs its tiny lunar module.

Virgil described a similar thrust into the unknown when Aeneas was warned: "Long shall be thine exile, and weary journey, of sea must thou plough." He challenged destiny in an old wooden hull with oars or green boughs: "Virgil wrote:

"They sit down at the thwarts, and their arms are tense on the oars, at full strain they wait the signal, while thrashing fear and rich passion of glory drain their riotous blood. Then, when the clear trumpet-note sounds, . . . All

the sea is torn asunder by oars."

We have only scriptural or literary revelation for the earliest journey into fog: The greatest recorded age of discovery prior to our own was the 15th 16th Century period initiated by Henry the Navigator, Portuguese prince, and heralded by discovery of the Azores.

Subsequently bold men from Portugal, Spain, England, Holland and France set out to explore what they believed to be a dish-shaped world over whose brim lay chaos. Only when Columbus had proved the scientists correct—that this was indeed a globe—did they circumnavigate it.

Vasco da Gama put down the Tazus and around Africa into the unknown. Before departing, he and a hundred crewmen prayed at length, holding candles and then boarded four ships on an eldritch tide. But it was Columbus who made the most dramatic breakthrough prior to the moonshot.

Anchors Aweigh

In August 1492, Admiral Samuel Eliot Morison wrote: "Columbus went on board his flagship on the small hours of Friday the third and gave signal to get under way. Before the sun rose, all three vessels had anchors aweigh, and with sails hanging limp from their yards

were floating down the Rio Tinto on the morning ebb, using their long sweeps to maintain steerage-way . . . they could hear the friars chanting the ancient hymn 'Iam Lucas Orii sidera' with its haunting refrain, 'Et Nunc Et In Perpetuum' which we rendered 'Evermore and Evermore.'"

From Columbus' proof of the world's roundness to circumnavigation was a matter of one generation. Magellan took off in old ships lacking adequate spars because the Spanish government wished to scrimp. The Portuguese Ambassador wrote his sovereign: "I assure you

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)



**IT STARTED HERE** — Dr. Robert H. Goddard stands with the world's first liquid-propellant rocket at Auburn, Mass., March 16, 1926. When launched, the rocket soared 41 feet high and carried 184 feet in 2 1/2 seconds. It moved at 60 miles an hour and was the forerunner of the powerful machines that hurl spacecraft into orbit today. (AP Wirephoto)